

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02
USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 AF-08
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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5940

INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS 174

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EB/ORF/ICD FOR WENDT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, EGEN

SUBJECT: NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE ON THE COMMON FUND: SUMMARY OF
OTHER COUNTRY OPENING STATEMENTS

1. IN ADDITION TO THE EC, JAPAN, AND GROUP B STATEMENTS
MADE ON MARCH 10 (SEE GENEVA 1830 FOR COMPLETE TEXTS)
STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY EACH OF THE NORDICS, CANADA,
AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND, TURKEY,
GROUP D, CHINA, HUNGARY AND THE GROUP OF 77. FOR THE MOST
PART THESE WERE RESTATEMENTS, OR AT MOST EMBELLISHMENTS,
OF PREVIOUS STATEMENTS MADE AT NAIROBI AND/OR IN THE
PREPARATORY MEETINGS. HOWEVER, SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF FOUR
OF THESE STATEMENTS DESERVE PARTICULAR ATTENTION:

A) THE SWEDISH STATEMENT WAS MORE CAREFULLY PREPARED AND
SUBSTANTIVE THAN MOST, SWELLING ON THE "TWO-WINDOW"
APPROACH FOR BUFFER STOCKS AND OTHER MEASURES (I.E.,
SEPARATE FINANCING WITHIN A COMMON FUND), BUT NEVERTHELESS
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ARGUING FOR A PRIOR COMMITMENT OF CAPITAL TO A CF,

B) NORWAY INDICATED TWICE IN ITS STATEMENT THAT THE CF
SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED SOLELY AS AN ECONOMIC EXERCISE
BUT RATHER AS A "GREAT VENTURE OF SOLIDARITY" TOWARD
THE NIEO,

C) GROUP D (USSR SPOKESMAN) FOR THE FIRST TIME ENDORSED
"IN PRINCIPLE" THE CONCEPT OF A CF,

D) G-77 SET FORTH ITS BARGAINING POSITION THAT THE
COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATE A CF AT NAIROBI AND THE RESULTS
OF PREPARATORY MEETINGS NOW "RENDER UNNECESSARY ANY
FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND CLARIFICATION CONCERNING
THE CONCEPT OF THE CF AND INDEED, ANY CONSIDERATION OF
ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO THE FUND." THE CONFERENCE
THUS NEED ONLY CONCERN ITSELF WITH NEGOTIATING ELEMENTS
OF THE CF.

2. CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND SOUGHT TO DIS-
ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES SOMEWHAT FROM THE U.S. POSITION
OF NO A PRIORI OBJECTION TO A CF WITH NONCOMMITAL
STATEMENTS ARGUING THAT MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN BEFORE
DECISIONS ON THE NATURE OF A CF CAN BE MADE. THE
REMAINING SPEAKERS SUPPORTED THE CONCEPTS OF A CF
BUT ONLY TURKEY, STRESSING ITS NEEDS AS AN LDC, AND
CHINA, IN A POLITICAL POLEMIC CALLING FOR EQUALITY IN
VOTING RIGHTS, SPECIFICALLY ENDORSED THE CF.

3. POLISH DELEGATE CONFIRMED TO US THAT GROUP D HAD
INDEED SHIFTED ITS POSITION SLIGHTLY, NOT ONLY TOWARD
ENDORSEMENT IN PRINCIPLE OF THE CONCEPT OF A CF, BUT ALSO
IN CAREFULLY AVOIDING ANY LANGUAGE IN THE STATEMENT
SUGGESTING THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF GROUP D COUNTRIES
WOULD BE STRICTLY ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS. HE INSISTED,
HOWEVER, THAT NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN GROUP D ATTITUDES
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-- WHICH REMAINED SKEPTICAL - WAS INVOLVED. THE FACT

THAT HUNGARY CHOSE TO MAKE A SEPARATE STATEMENT WHICH
DID NOT INCLUDE AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE CF MAY INDICATE
SOME DIFFERENCES WITH GROUP D POSITION.

4. WITH RESPECT TO WHERE WE STOOD GOING INTO THIS
CONFERENCE, THESE STATEMENTS REVEAL ONLY MARGINAL
SHIFTS IN POSITIONS. THE MOST DRAMATIC SHIFT, AS
PERCEIVED BY MOST DELEGATIONS, WAS IN THE U.S. POSITION.
(REACTION TO U.S. STATEMENT BEING REPORTED SEPTEL.)
WITHIN GROUP B THE NORDICS AND TURKEY REMAIN THE ONLY
COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT A PRIOR COMMITMENT TO THE CF WHILE
CANADA AND AUSTRALIA ARE THE MOST NONCOMMITAL. THE EC
HAS THUS FAR BEEN ABLE TO CONTAIN THE DUTCH AND PRESENT
A UNIFIED FRONT. NO LDC HAS YET BROKEN RANKS WITH THE
G-77 ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTOOD A FEW COUNTRIES HAD
BEEN PREPARING STATEMENTS.

5. AVAILABLE TEXTS OF STATEMENTS, OTHER THAN THOSE
ALREADY TRANSMITTED WILL BE HANDCARRIED TO WENDT BY
RAY MEYER (EB/OT). SORENSON

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Message Attributes

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